

City of Whitewater  
Indian Mounds Park Committee Meeting  
Wednesday, November 11, 2009 - 5:00pm  
Cravath Lakefront Room - 2nd Floor, City Municipal Building  
312 W. Whitewater St. Whitewater, WI 53190

**Draft Minutes**

The meeting was called to order at 5:05 pm by Matt Amundson.

Present: Mariann Scott, Sue Scherer, Carol Christ, Shelia Kindwall  
City Staff: Matt Amundson

Welcome and introduction of committee members. Discussion focused on what the committee is responsible for. Amundson expressed that the intent was to have a smaller group work on a plan for the site and take the committee's recommendations back to the Landmarks Commission and Parks & Recreation Board for review. Christ asked if the area should remain as parkland. The group reviewed portions of State Statue 157.70 (Burial Sites Preservation). Amundson led a SWOT analysis of the current mounds site. The group identified the following:

**STRENGTHS**

- Little damage
- Well Preserved
- Unique group of mounds
- All acres defined as archeological site
- On national register of historic places, local landmark
- Friends of the Mounds Group
- Interested Parties
- City Ownership
- Surveying Property
- Used currently by Native American groups

**WEAKNESSES**

- Not well known
- Lack of recorded history
- Home encroachment concerns
- Trail location is too close to the mounds
- Proper Care
- Preservation Costs
- Wetlands
- Signage

**OPPORTUNITIES**

- Education (Restoration Efforts & Preservation)
- Student Interest @ UW-Whitewater
- UW-Milwaukee Archeologist
- Service Groups
- Funding Sources & Grants
- Ho-Chunk
- Sponsorship
- Guided Tours for the public & school groups

## THREATS

- Need to involve all parties, keep information flowing
- Further residential development around the mounds site

A discussion on signage focused on an entrance sign similar to the General Atkinson sign at the Lake Koshkonong Effigy Mounds. Concerns in regards to signage due to vandalism were raised by Amundson, group agreed that we need to look at a comprehensive signage program.

The group watched a video of a recent tour of the Lake Koshkonong Effigy Mounds and signage at that site.

Scott suggested that due to the term “park” implying an active area that a more appropriate name be Maples Mound Archeological Preserve. The name stems from the original name gave to the mounds grouping. A name change would need to be approved by the Landmarks Commission and Parks & Recreation Board before a decision by the Common Council.

**Questions or Citizen Comments:** No formal action will be taken during this meeting, although issues raised may become part of a future agenda. Participants are allotted a 3 minute speaking period. Specific items listed on the agenda may not be discussed at this time; however, citizens are invited to speak to those issues as designated in the agenda.

The group discussed timeline and future meetings. Items to be discussed at the next meeting should include name of the park, signage plan, results of property survey. The names of Pete Killoran and Jo Ellen Burkholder were shared as new archeologists at UW-Whitewater that may be interested in the project.

The next meeting will be Tuesday, December 1<sup>st</sup> at 5:00 PM.

The meeting adjourned at 6:56 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

***Matt Amundson***

Matt Amundson, CPRP  
Parks & Recreation Director